

1. A method for treating a obstructed biological conduit, comprising administering to the conduit an agent that can degrade extracellular matrix of obstructing tissue.

- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the agent can solubilize or othwerwise degrade collogen or elastin.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the agent can solubilize or otherwise degrade collogen.)
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the agent can solubilize or otherwise degrade elastin.
- 5. The method of any one of claims 1 through 4 wherein the agent comprises an enzyme or a mixture of enzymes that can degrade collagen and/or elastin.
- 6. The method of any one of claims 1 through 5 wherein in a standard *in* vitro tissue digestion assay the agent exhibits at least about 10 percent greater digestion activity relative to a control.
- 7. The method of any one of claims 1 through 5 wherein in a standard *in* vitro tissue digestion assay the agent exhibits at least about 50 percent greater digestion activity relative to a control.
- 8. The method of any one of claims 1 through 7 wherein the agent is a collagenase, elastase or trypsin inhibitor.

- 9. The method of any one of claims 1 through 8 wherein the agent is administered by a catheter.
- 10. The method of any one of claims 1 through 9 wherein the obstruction of the biological conducit is a stenosis, stricture or lesion.
- 11. The method of any one of claims 1 through 10 wherein the biological conduit is an artery, vein, ureteter, bronchi, bile duct, or pancreatic duct.
- 12. The method of any one of claims 1 through 11 wherein the agent is administered to a mammal having an obstructed biological conducit, or susceptible to an obstructed biological conduit.
- 13. A method of dialating a biological conduit, comprising: administering to a biological conducit a therapeutic agent that is capable of degrading elastin and/or collogen.
- 14. The method of claim 13 further comprising, after administering the therapeutic agent, pressurizing the biological conduit.
- 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the biological conduit is pressurized by mechanical action.
- 16. The method of claim 14 or 15 wherein the biological conduit is pressurized by a balloon catheter.
- 17. The method of any one of claims 14 through 16 wherein the therapeutic agent is administered and the pressurizing is performed by the same device.

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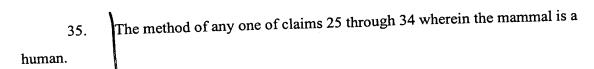
- 18. The method of any one of claims 14 through 17 wherein, after administering the therapeutic agent, a time period is permitted to lapse sufficient for the administered therapeutic agent to permeate through walls of the biological conduit.
 - 19. A harmaceutical kit comprising:

an agent that can degrade extracellular matrix of obstructing tissue of a mammalian biological conduit;

a delivery device for the agent.

- 20. The kit of claim 19 wherein the agent can solubilize collogen and/or elastin.
- 21. The kit of claim 19 wherein the agent comprises an enzyme or a mixture of enzymes that can degrade collagen and/or elastin.
- 22. The kit of any one of claims 19 through 21 wherein the therapeutic agent is a collagenase, elastase or trypsin inhibitor.
- 23. The kit of any one of claims 19 through 22 wherein in a standard *in vitro* tissue digestion assay the agent exhibits at least about 10 percent greater digestion activity relative to a control.
- 24. The kit of any one of claims 19 through 23 wherein the device is a syringe or catheter.
- 25. A method for treating a mammal suffering from or susceptible to a disease or disorder associated with obstruction of a biological conduit of the mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition agent that can degrade the conduit obstruction.

- 26. The method of claim 25 wherein the composition degrades extracellular matrix of tissue of the conduit obstruction.
- 27. The method of claim 25 or 26 wherein the composition can solubilize or otherwise degrade collogen or elastin.
- 28. The method of any one of claims 25 through 27 wherein the composition comprises an enzyme or a mixture of enzymes that can degrade collagen and/or elastin.
- 29. The method of any one of claims 25 through 28 wherein the composition comprises collagenase, elastase and/or trypsin inhibitor.
- 30. The method of any one of claims 25 through 29 wherein in a standard *in* vitro tissue digestion assay the agent exhibits at least about 10 percent greater digestion activity relative to a control.
- 31. The method of any one of claims 25 through 30 wherein the therapeutic agent is administered by a catheter
- 32. The method of any one of claims 25 through 31 wherein the obstruction of the biological conducit is a stenosis, stricture or lesion.
- 33. The method of any one of claims 25 through 32 wherein the biological conduit is an artery, vein, ureteter, brouchi, bile duct, or pancreatic duct.
- 34. The method of any one of claims 25 through 33 wherein the mammal is suffering from benign biliary stricture, stenosis of hemodialysis graft, intimal hyperlasia, or coronary obstruction.



- 36. A method for treating a mammal suffering from or susceptible to biliary stricture, stenosis of hemodialysis graft, intimal hyperlasia, or coronary obstruction, comprising administering to the mammal a composition agent that can solubilize or otherwise degrade collogen or elastin of the mammal.
- 37. The mathed of claim 36 wherein the composition comprises an enzyme or a mixture of enzymes that can degrade collagen and/or elastin.
- 38. The method of claim 36 or 37 wherein the composition comprises a collagenase, elastase or a trypsin inhibitor.
- 39. The method of any one of claims 36 through 38 wherein the mammal is a human.

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